

[English]

### Telephone waiting list in Gurgaon

345. SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have cleared the telephone waiting list upto 1.1.96 in Gurgaon;

(b) if so, the present position of allotting telephone connections to the people who have got themselves registered in Gurgaon after 1.1.96;

(c) whether the Government have suspended the work of giving telephone connections to the people enlisted after 1.1.96;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the number of telephones released to the persons enlisted after 1.1.96 and the time by which the connections are likely to be provided to them ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The waiting list upto 1.1.96 has been cleared except a few technically non-feasible cases.

(b) The status of clearance of waiting list, in various categories, is as follows :

Sl. No.	Category	Cleared upto
1.	OYT	15.7.1997
2.	N-OYT (Special)	10.7.1997
2.	N-OYT (General)	1.1.1996

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of the above.

(e) 2200 telephone connections stand provided, to those applicants who got themselves registered after 1.1.1996. Rest of the applicants are being provided the connections progressively and a substantial waiting list is likely to be cleared before 31.3.98.

### Power Allocation Formula

346. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power allocation formula is followed

by the Government uniformly for all central sector power stations;

(b) if not, the logic of deviations from the formula.

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan requested the Union Government to review the formula for allocation of power from the central generating power stations based on projected shortage of power; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be reviewed to ensure additional power to the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) By and large the power allocation formula has been followed by the Government for all central sector power stations except in the case of Kayamkulam in Kerala, Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh and Faridabad in Haryana. which are exclusively dedicated to the respective states. For a variety of reasons including NTPC not having sufficient project units portfolio, it was decided to consider setting up a few projects like Kayamkulam, Simhadri and Faridabad exclusively for individual states. It has also been decided that such projects be set up as separate subsidiary companies of NTPC in which the concerned State Governments/SEBs should have an equity.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The present formula is being examined in consultation with CEA. CPSU's and State Governments/ State Electricity Boards.

### Mehta Committee Report

347. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since received Mehta Committee Report on rural areas and development;

(b) if so, the salient features of the reports; and

(c) the details of the recommendations accepted and rejected, separately, alongwith the reasons of rejections ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee has submitted interim report to Reserve Bank of India.

(b) The salient features of the interim report and the recommendations accepted by the Government are :-

- (i) Greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institution in the implementation of IRDP.
- (ii) Selection of the families below poverty line for assistance under IRDP should be from those with skills, aptitude and experience in handling assets. Others would also be provided assistance under IRDP, subject to acquiring or upgrading their skills under TRYSEM or other related training programmes.
- (iii) Switchover from present front end subsidy to back-end subsidy.

- (iv) Measures for better recovery of IRDP loan.
- (v) Realistic repayment schedules and increasing the security free limits.
- (vi) Need to meet Working capital requirement.
- (vii) Stress on better Planning and development of infrastructure.
- (viii) Increase in the level of per family assistance by providing larger credit and higher subsidy.
- (ix) Encouragement of group activities.
- (x) Modification of traditional target oriented approach.
- (c) Details in the Statement attached.

#### Statement

##### *Recommendations made by the expert Committee and Action Taken thereon*

Recommendations	Action Taken
1	2
1. The poor without skills and experience in handling assets should be segregated into a separate category by a Committee comprising the representatives of blocks, Panchayat, lead banks, school masters, postmasters, prominent villagers and grass-root NGOs; such poor people should be initially provided wage employment under wage employment under various schemes of State Governments and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. They should also be supported by providing for greater social consumption expenditure. They would be provided with assistance under IRDP subject to their acquiring or upgrading their skills. The other segment of the poor i.e. families above the poor IAF of the poor which has reasonable measure of skills and experience may be provided assistance under IRDP straightaway. The relatively new entrants to job market may be provided training under TRYSEM or other programmes followed by assistance under IRDP.	The Ministry is of the view that all the BPL families should be covered under IRDP. Whenever required beneficiaries will be given training according to their skill and aptitude. A new category of trained literate youth who will get higher subsidy has been introduced.
2. For doing away with leakages and malpractices, the Committee recommends switchover from front-end to backend system of subsidy. The benefit of subsidy should also be available to borrowers who prefer to avail themselves of working capital finance.	Necessary instructions have been issued.

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3. For improving recovery. Government of India may consider linking of certain percentage of subsidy allocation to recovery performance. Special recovery officers may be appointed by Govts. Enactment of Model Bill as recommended by Talwar Committee by remaining State Governments may be expedited. Loan waivers may not be declared. DRDAs, Vos and SHGs may help banks in recovery, Utilisation-Reporter-Cum-Recovery facilitators may be appointed on commission basis.
4. The work relating to identification of investment opportunities and preparation of project profiles may be undertaken by district level Technical Group to be set up by DRDAs.
5. DRDAs must prepare a prospective plan of infrastructure in consultation with DCC and BLBC. The limit of expenditure for setting up of infrastructure may be raised to 20% of budgetary allocation. Atleast one mini ITI or Rural Polytechnic may be set up in each block for imparting training to poor rural youth. Private sector may be associated with the task of setting up such institutions. Additional shifts for TRYSEM should be opened to all ITIs and other training institutions.
6. Democratic character of IRDP should be restored and strengthened by ensuring greater involvement of Panchayats and village population as also be imparting to the process of identification of beneficiaries a greater degree of transparency.
7. Banks may be authorised to finalise targets in respect of IRDP under service area plans on the basis of previous years' actual figures after adding 10% for cushioning, without waiting for targets from Government of India.
8. Banks should fix realistic repayment schedules and provide for gestation period where required. Working capital assistance in the form of cash credit limits may also be provided where necessary. The repayment period of IRDP loans should not be less than 5 years. Banks may encourage group loans for various activities under IRDP. The limit of non-obtention of mortgage may be fixed at Rs. 25,000/- for all activities under IRDP. Collateral security may not be insisted for loans upto Rs. 50,000/-. Banks may be given freedom to select the beneficiaries from BPL list on a pilot basis.

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Instructions have been issued by the RBI. State Governments have also been requested to take appropriate action.

Instructions have been issued by the RBI. Separate instructions have also been issued by the Ministry.

RBI has issued instructions. Instructions have also been issued by this Ministry to the States/UTs, and also for setting up of Mini ITI and-and also for opening additional shifts for TRYSEM. Ceiling on infrastructure development has been raised to 25% in North Eastern States including Sikkim and 20% in other States/UTs.

Provision already exists under the IRDP manual. Separate instructions issued by RBI to financial institutions.

Instructions to this effect have been issued by this Ministry.

Instructions have been issued by the RBI.

1	2
9. The level of per family/enterprise investment under IRDP should be enlarged by providing larger credit as also higher amount of subsidy.	Decisions have been communicated to all concerned to encourage group activities and for provision of higher subsidy for trained educated rural youth. Further emphasis has been laid on credit mobilisation.
10. Non-farm tiny/small enterprise and services sector may be further promoted under IRDP.	Necessary instructions have been issued by the RBI.
11. DRDAs must be reorganised into compact teams of professional and technical experts.	Instructions have been issued to the State Governments in this regard.
12. Voluntary organisations and Self-Help-Groups may be associated with the implementation of IRDP. In the case of projects approved by CAPART a few V.O.s can be on pilot basis given list of BPL families for identification of borrowers, ensuring availability of backward/forward linkages, as also verifying end use of credit.	Instructions have been issued by the RBI. Provisions for associating the V.O.s already exists in the IRDP Manual.
13. Banks should provide loans under IRDP for acquisition of land.	Necessary instructions have been issued by the RBI.
14. Cash disbursement under IRDP may be extended throughout the country. Family Credit Plan Scheme should also be further encouraged.	Necessary instructions have been issued by the RBI.
15. Supplementary doses of assistance under IRDP may be provided to beneficiaries who have not crossed the poverty line with initial assistance.	Provisions exist under the IRDP Manual.
16. Panchayati Raj Institutions at grass-root or middle levels should be involved in the implementation of IRDP.	Provisions already exist under IRDP Manual.
17. A new dimension should be added to IRDP through Information Education and/Commission budget should be provided.	Separate budget provision already exists.

#### Railway facilities in Orissa

348. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steps are being taken to provide better rail communications facilities between Paradeep and Cuttack in Orissa;

(b) if so, the projects launched for the purpose; and

(c) the expected time of the completion of the on-going projects ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work of doubling of Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep section has been taken up.

(c) Within the 9th Plan period.

#### Generation of Power

349. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether less power has been generated during